

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 171

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dan and Cara June Strasser on receiving the 2009 National Young Farmer Excellence in Agriculture Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, two such noteworthy people are Dan and Cara June Strasser of Chapel Hill, who recently received the 2009 National Young Farmer Excellence in Agriculture Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF); and

WHEREAS, participants in the competition for the award are evaluated on their involvement in agriculture, Farm Bureau leadership, Young Farmer and Ranchers leadership, and leadership outside the Farm Bureau; each applicant is required to list and expound upon three major agricultural issues that he or she feels need to be addressed in the next five years; and

WHEREAS, in their exemplary application, Dan and Cara June Strasser discussed the profitability of farming, urban encroachment upon farmland, and the general transition of today's farms; and

WHEREAS, the Strassers have generously given their time and energy to a variety of agricultural organizations and events, including the Marshall County Farm Bureau, Marshall County Farm Day, Young Farmers, Young Farmers and Ranchers, the Tennessee Agricultural Museum, the Future Farmers of America Alumni of Chapel Hill, the Tennessee Viticulture Advisory Board, and the 4-H Club; and

WHEREAS, active and valuable members of their community, Dan and Cara June Strasser have also been involved with the Tennessee Guernsey Association, the Tennessee Council of Cooperatives, and the Marshall County Teen Board; and

WHEREAS, Dan Strasser earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee (UT) at Martin; Cara June Strasser attended UT Martin as well, earning a Bachelor of Science degree there; and

WHEREAS, the Strassers live on a family farm in Marshall County with their three children, Emma June, Ellarose, and Jude; and

WHEREAS, they work in a partnership with Mr. Strasser's brothers and sisters on Memory Lane Farms, where they assist in the management, operation, and creative development of the family agritourism business; and

WHEREAS, Dan Strasser is the Director of Market Development for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Cara June Strasser is a full-time homemaker; and

WHEREAS, together, the Strassers continually strive toward their goal of being a positive voice for agriculture, leaders in their church and community, and role models for their own children, for the youth of their community, and for the people of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the work of men and women such as Dan and Cara June Strasser, Tennessee's farms and ranches enjoy a reputation for exceptional quality and productivity, and for their many contributions to this reputation, the Strassers should be applauded; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dan and Cara June Strasser on receiving the 2009 National Young Farmer Excellence in Agriculture Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation, thank them for their meritorious service to Tennessee's agricultural community, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.